

PATENT

C. REMARKS**Status of the Claims**

Claims 1-39 are currently present in the Application, and claims 1, 12, 23, 34, 36, and 38 are independent claims. No claims have been amended, cancelled, or added in this Response.

Drawings

The Office Action did not indicate whether the formal drawings filed by the Applicants are accepted by the Examiner. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner indicate whether the drawings filed on January 22, 2004 are accepted by the Examiner in the next communication.

Claim Objections - Double Patenting

Claims 1-39 are provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-51 of co-pending application serial number 10/763,082. Applicants hereby submit a Terminal Disclaimer, form PTO/SB/25 attached hereto, to overcome the provisional double patenting rejection. As there are no other rejections in the Office Action, Applicants respectfully request that claims 1-39 be allowed.

Conclusion

As a result of the foregoing, it is asserted by Applicants that the remaining claims in the Application are in condition for allowance, and Applicants respectfully request an early allowance of such claims.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner contact the Applicants' attorney listed below if the Examiner believes

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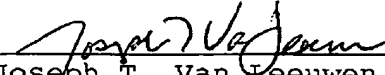
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that such a discussion would be helpful in resolving any remaining questions or issues related to this Application.

Respectfully submitted,

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